

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph at page 15, lines 9-11, as follows:

~~FIG. 2 is a~~ FIGs. 2(a) and 2(b) are conceptual ~~drawing~~ drawings showing a first modified example of a magnetoresistance effect element in the first embodiment;

Please amend the paragraph at page 15, lines 12-14, as follows:

~~FIG. 3 is a~~ FIGs. 3(a) and 3(b) are conceptual ~~drawing~~ drawings showing a second modified example of a magnetoresistance effect element in the first embodiment;

Please amend the paragraph at page 15, lines 15-16, as follows:

~~FIG. 4 is a~~ FIGs. 4(a) and 4(b) are conceptual ~~drawing~~ drawings showing a current path in a magnetoresistance effect film 13;

Please amend the paragraph at page 15, lines 20-22, as follows:

~~FIG. 6 is a~~ FIGs. 6(a) and 6(b) are conceptual ~~drawing~~ drawings showing a principal part of a shielded head on which the magnetoresistance effect element illustrated in ~~FIG. 1~~ FIGs. 1(a) and 1(b) is mounted;

Please amend the paragraph at page 15, lines 23-25, as follows:

~~FIG. 7 is a~~ FIGs. 7(a) and 7(b) are conceptual ~~drawing~~ drawings showing a magnetization distribution in a magnetization free layer (free layer) of a magnetoresistance effect element;

Please amend the paragraph at page 15, lines 35-37, as follows:

~~FIG. 11 is a~~ FIGs. 11(a) and 11(b) are sectional view views of the magnetoresistance effect element in the third embodiment of the present invention, which is provided with an auxiliary yoke;

Please amend the paragraph at page 16, lines 21-23, as follows:

~~FIG. 14 is a~~ FIGs. 14(a)-14(d) are sectional view views of the fourth embodiment of a magnetoresistance effect element according to the present invention;

Please amend the paragraph at page 16, lines 24-29, as follows:

~~FIG. 15 is a~~ FIGs. 15(a)-15(d) are schematic diagram diagrams showing a modified example 4-1 of a magnetoresistance effect element in the fourth embodiment of the present invention, ~~wherein~~ and the sectional area of a pillar electrode is linearly varied from one surface contacting a top electrode to the other surface contacting the magnetoresistance effect film;

Please amend the paragraph at page 16, lines 30-35, as follows:

~~FIG. 16 is a~~ FIGs. 16(a)-16(d) are schematic diagram diagrams showing a modified example 4-2 of a magnetoresistance effect element in the fourth embodiment of the present invention, ~~wherein~~ and the magnetoresistance effect element is capable of being generally divided into two parts by the sectional area of a pillar electrode;

Please amend the paragraph at page 16, line 36, to page 17, line 1, as follows:

~~FIG. 17 is a~~ FIGs. 17(a) and 17(b) are schematic view views of the fifth embodiment of a magnetoresistance effect element according to the present invention;

Please amend the paragraph at page 17, lines 2-4, as follows:

~~FIG. 18 is a~~ FIGs. 18(a) and 18(b) are schematic view views of the sixth embodiment of a magnetoresistance effect element according to the present invention;

Please amend the paragraph at page 21, lines 12-22, as follows:

FIG. 5 is a conceptual drawing showing a sectional construction of a third modified example of a magnetoresistance effect element in this embodiment. That is, in the magnetoresistance effect element 10C in this modified example, a non-magnetic intermediate layer 13S of a spin-valve which has a stacked film 13P having at least one magnetization fixed layer (pinned layer) and a stacked film ~~[[14F]]~~ 13F having at least one magnetization free layer (free layer) is patterned in the form of a pillar. However, the stacking order in this figure should not be limited. Furthermore, electrodes (not shown) contact the top and bottom faces of the magnetoresistance effect film 13.

Please amend the paragraph at page 24, lines 23-28, as follows:

~~FIG. 11 is a~~ FIGs. 11(a) and 11(b) are schematic sectional view views showing the construction of a principal part of a magnetic head in this modified example. Also in ~~this figure~~ these figures, the same reference numbers are given to the same elements as those described above referring to FIGS. 1 through 10 and 31 to omit the detailed descriptions thereof.

Please amend the paragraph at page 24, line 29, to page 25, line 2, as follows:

In this modified example, auxiliary yokes 22 substantially having the same size as that of the width 200W of a recording track of a recording medium are added to the planar yoke

head illustrated in FIG. 8. FIG. 11(a) shows that each yoke 20 shown in FIG. 10 has an auxiliary yoke 22 and FIG. 11(b) shows that the width 200W of the auxiliary yoke 22 has substantially the same size as the magnetic recording medium track 200T shown in FIG. 10.

Thus, a magnetic flux due to a signal from the recording track is efficiently led to the yokes 20, and thus to the magnetization free layer of a magnetoresistance effect element 13. As a result, only the magnetization of a portion above the recording track ideally rotates, so that an active region 13A can be more conspicuously defined by arranging a pillar electrode 14 within the track width.